

Draft – January 3, 2021

Deliberative

Predecisional

E-mail to component heads, Chair/Vice Chair of AGAC, ODAG/OAG staff

Dear all –

Apologies for the impersonal nature of this e-mail.

This evening, after Acting Attorney General Jeff Rosen over the course of the last week repeatedly refused the President’s direct instructions to utilize the Department of Justice’s law enforcement powers for improper ends, the President removed Jeff from the Department.

PADAG Rich Donoghue and I resign from the Department, effective immediately.

Jeff loves the Department of Justice, as we all do. Preserving and defending the institutional integrity of the Department remains Jeff’s paramount concern. The decision of whether and when to resign and whether the ends of justice are best served by resigning is a highly individual question, informed by personal and family circumstances. Jeff asked me to pass on to each of you that whatever your own decision, he knows you will adhere always to the highest standards of justice and act always – and only – in the interests of the United States.

It has been a high honor to serve with each of you.

Best,

Pat

Patrick Hovakimian

Associate Deputy Attorney General

United States Department of Justice

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